

December 16, 2005

Re: CLSI Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (AST) Documents *and* NLTN Audio Conference on changes in CLSI AST documents for 2006

Dear Microbiology Colleague:

You may be aware that in January 2006, the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) will publish updated versions of three antimicrobial susceptibility-testing documents. These are standards of practice for susceptibility testing in the laboratory, and contain the current methods, interpretation tables, quality control requirements, and reporting guidance. We know that laboratory resources are limited, and are pleased that we have again obtained funding from the CDC* to purchase these critical documents for Michigan sentinel microbiology laboratories:

M2-A9 Performance Standards for Antimicrobial Disk Susceptibility Tests: Approved Standard – Ninth Edition

M7-A7 Methods for Dilution Antimicrobial Susceptibility Tests for Bacteria That Grow Aerobically: Approved Standard – Seventh Edition

M100-S16 Performance Standards for Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing: Fifteenth Informational Supplement

Further details on these documents, and membership in the CLSI, is available at <http://www.clsi.org>

We will send ordering information soon as part of the annual enrollment packet for the Sentinel Laboratory Preparedness Program (SLPP). Please watch for this information in the mail.

There will also be a **FREE audio conference** sponsored by the National Laboratory Training Network (NLTN): "What's New in the 2006 Standards for AST?" January 25, 2006 12:30 – 2:00 PM EST *or* January 26, 2006 3:00 – 4:30 PM EST. The speaker is Janet Fick Hindler, MCLS, MT(ASCP), F(AAM). Ms. Hindler is well known as an excellent presenter on AST topics. Register on line at http://www.phppo.cdc.gov/nltn/nltn_cal.aspx

Please contact us if you have any additional comments, concerns or questions.

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Please visit our web site: <http://www.michigan.gov/mdchlab>